

Subject: Support Jordan Lake rules
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Date: Tue, 21 Aug 2007 12:51:20 -0400
To: <Rich.Gannon@ncmail.net>

August 21, 2007

Members of the Environmental Management Commission

To Mr. Rich Gannon and the EMC Commission members:

I am writing to encourage the EMC to adopt stronger rules to protect water quality in Jordan Lake and in the Jordan Lake watershed. Nutrient overload in streams and creeks that feed Jordan Lake have lead to algae blooms and other problems of water quality in the lake. We must have stronger rules and regulations to prevent further degradation of water quality and to help get the lake cleaned up as soon as possible.

I kayak regularly at Jordan Lake and can see how dirty the water is. I would like to swim there but am often concerned about actually putting my body in the water, which is sad indeed.

I also live in the watershed in Orange County where I serve as a water quality monitor for upper Morgan Creek which feeds University Lake and ultimately flows to Jordan. Over 10 year period of monitoring, I have witnessed the quality of Morgan Creek degrade from being a crystal clear stream filled with gilled snails, to a stream with a bottom coating of silt and algae from development upstream. The gilled snails, a highly sensitive organism, have disappeared completely from the stream.

Our entire region needs stiffer rules to limit erosion and pollution of our surface waters. The many tributaries that eventually lead to Jordan Lake are being compromised by development and runoff and in the end, the Lake becomes dirtier and dirtier.

Please support the proposed rules to help clean up the lake and implement these rules sooner rather than later.

Sincerely,

Maria Hitt
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